

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 M-03 A-01 NIC-01 AID-20 PC-04 TRSE-00

OMB-01 OPR-02 SY-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SIL-01

LAB-06 COME-00 RSR-01 /120 W
----- 109192

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4740

INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: /A

TAGS: CI, PINS, PINT, MILI

SUBJ: PRESS CENSORSHIP CONTINUES; OPPOSITION RADIOS BACK ON AIR

REF/ SANTIAGO 2855

1. SUMMARY: ALL SANTIAGO NEWSPAPERS CONTINUE UNDER PRIOR MILITARY CENSORSHIP AND APPEAR WITH OPEN SPACES INDICATING DELETED MATERIAL. NATIONAL PARTY DAILY "TRIBUNA" STILL CLOSED DOWN. SEVEN OPPOSITION RADIO STATIONS CLOSED SATURDAY (JUNE 30) FOR ALLEGEDLY NOT BROADCASTING EMERGENCY ZONE COMMANDER EDICT BUT STARTED COMING BACK ON THE AIR SUNDAY AND ARE NOW ALL BROADCASTING. TELEVISION STATIONS UNAFFECTED. END SUMMARY.

2. SANTIAGO DAILIES APPEARED SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY WITH VARYING AMOUNTS OF WHITE SPACE WHERE MILITARY CENSORS HAD ORDERED MATERIAL DELETED. CENSORED MATERIAL INCLUDES PART OF SECRETARY GENERAL OF GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT ON JUNE 29 AND FOLLOWING EVENTS IN "EL MERCURIO", REPORTS ON FUNERAL OF ARMY SERGEANT, EDITORIAL AND CARTOONS. SUNDAY ISSUE COMMUNIST "EL SIGLO" CARRIED LARGE BLANK SPACES, AND EVEN SUNDAY AND MONDAY EDITIONS OF GOC'S "LA NACION"

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CENSORED. INDEPENDENT "LA TERCERA," TAKING CAUTIOUS APPROACH, HAS

HAD ONLY EXTREME-LEFT COLUMNIST CENSORED AND HAS FOLLOWED "SUGGESTIONS" OF MILITARY CENSORS.

3. GOC'S "LA NACION" JUNE 30 ISSUE REPORTEDLY PRINTED BEFORE MILITARY CENSORS HAD ARRIVED AND WAS CALLED BACK. PAPER APPEARED ABOUT NOON SATURDAY AS /SUPPLEMENT." MARXIST "CLARIN" SATURDAY ISSUE, ACCORDING "LA TERCERA" EDITOR, MANAGED TO PUBLISH BEFORE CENSORS ARRIVED BUT EDITION NOT CALLED BACK.

4. NATIONAL PARTY'S "TRIBUNA" REMAINS CLOSED AND PROHIBITED FROM USING USUAL DODGE OF PUBLISHING UNDER ANOTHER NAME.

5. DURING MORNING JUNE 29, DETECTIVES ORALLY INVOKING MILITARY AUTHORITY ATTEMPTED TO CLOSE RADIOS COOPERATIVA AND AGRICULTURA, BOTH OPPOSITION ORGANS. STATIONS REFUSED ORDERS TO CLOSE AND DEMANDED WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FROM CHIEF OF MILITARY ZONE IN STATE OF EMERGENCY. DETECTIVES DESISTED BUT RETURNED LATER IN DAY WITH WRITTEN ORDER CLOSING RADIOS COOPERATIVA AND MINERIA FOR ALLEGED FAILURE TO TRANSMIT EDICT NUMBER THREE. REMAINDER OF OPPOSITION STATIONS (AGRICULTURA, NUEVO MUNDO, SANTIAGO, BALMACEDA AND YUNGAY) CLOSED SATURDAY MORNING OSTENSIBLY FOR SAME REASON.

6. RADIOS CONTEND ORDER IN QUESTION WAS TRANSMITTED BY "POLITICAL" ANNOUNCEMENT OF SINGLE WORKERS UNION (CUT) EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PRES ALLENDE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MILITARY ANNOUNCEMENT NOT TRANSMITTED. STATIONS CLAIM THAT PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND RADIO BROADCASTING (984), WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING AND ENFORCING RADIO HOOKUPS, ERRONEOUSLY INFORMED MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF STATIONS' ACTIONS, LEADING TO SHUTDOWN. STATIONS BEGAN RETURNING TO AIR SUNDAY MORNING AND ARE NOW ALL BROADCASTING.

7. TELEVISION STATIONS HAVE REMAINED IMMUNE ALTHOUGH ALL CARRIED NEWS COVERAGE OF JUNE 29 EVENTS.

8. COMMENT: OUR EDITOR CONTACTS STILL NOT EXPECTING LIFTING OF MILITARY CENSORSHIP IN NEAR FUTURE. OUR INFORMATION REGARDING RADIO STATIONS IS THAT THEY DID TRANSMIT MILITARY EDICT NUMBER THREE BUT REFUSED TO BROADCAST CUT ANNOUNCEMENT. AT OUR URGING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(WHICH PROBABLY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF REIGNING CONFUSION TO GET AT OPPOSITION RADIO STATIONS), MILITARY APPARENTLY FELT WISEST COURSE WAS TO CLOSE STATIONS. EARLY REAPPEARANCE INDICATES GROUNDS FOR CLOSURE RECOGNIZED AS WEAK. OFFICIAL NEWS BROADCASTS SUNDAY INCLUDED MILITARY EDICTS ALLOWING STATIONS BACK ON AIR.
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